

Message Text

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ORIGIN H-02

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IO/TRC - MR. DIAMANTI (SUBSTANCE)
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P 072323Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 090303

FOR USREP DOWNS/ICAO AND USDEL TAYLOR

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PORT, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT:REPRESENTATIVE JOHN BURTON'S TRAVEL TO ICAO MEETING

REF: MONTREAL 649

1. WE APPRECIATE YOUR PROMPT AND USEFUL RESPONSE TO
QUESTIONS WE HAD RAISED. WE SPOKE WITH REP. BURTON ON
BASIS YOUR TALKING POINTS AND HE GAVE US FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. HE WOULD PREFER NOT BE AN OFFICIAL MEMBER OF USDEL. HE
FEARS THIS WOULD REMOVE ASPECT OF IMPARTIALITY HE AND HIS
STAFF WISH TO PRESERVE. ALSO, HE EMPHASIZED THAT SHOULD HE
GO, HE WOULD HAVE NO INTENTION OF PARTICIPATING IN
DELIBERATIONS BUT MERELY OBSERVING.

3. REGARDING CIRCULATION OF PAPERS (HEARINGS AND REPORT),
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PAGE 02 STATE 090303

BURTON WAS VERY LOW KEY AND UNINSISTENT. HE TALKED OF
"OBLIGATION" HE HAS TO MAKE HEARINGS AND REPORT
AVAILABLE TO ICAO BUT HAS NO INTENTION OF FORCING PAPERS

ON PEOPLE NOT DESIRING THEM. HE NOTED THAT HIS INITIAL
CONCERN ABOUT CIRCULATION OF HEARINGS DOCUMENT IS
RELIEVED BECAUSE HE UNDERSTANDS THAT COPIES MADE AVAILABLE

BY BRITISH ARE IN CIRCULATION.

4. HE SAID PRESENT PLANS STILL ARE FOR THREE STAFF MEMBERS TO LEAVE FOR MONTREAL IN AFTERNOON OF APRIL 12. IT IS POSSIBLE BURTON AND MAYBE ONE OR TWO OTHER SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS MAY ALSO GO LATER IN WEEK--BUT BURTON SAID THIS IS ALL HIGHLY TENTATIVE. HE SEVERAL TIMES REASSURED US THAT NEITHER HE NOR STAFF MEMBERS HAVE INTENTION OF DOING ANYTHING OTHER IN MONTREAL THAN OBSERVE PROCEEDINGS. HE PLANS NO PRESS CONFERENCES OR PROSELYTIZING ON ANY SUBJECT. HAVING PUT CONSIDERABLE TIME INTO HEARINGS AND WRITING OF REPORT, HE FELT IT WOULD BE A USEFUL EDUCATIONAL PROCESS FOR SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STAFFERS TO VIEW ACTUAL ICAO PROCEDURES ON MLS. HE ASKED SPECIFICALLY THAT WE PASS THESE ASSURANCES TO TAYLOR AND DOWNS. HE IN TURN SAID THAT DELEGATION WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST IN FACILITATING OBSERVATION OF MEETING.

5. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION, BUTTERWORTH (ONE OF STAFF MEMBERS GOING TO MONTREAL) TOLD US THAT HE WOULD BRING COPIES OF REPORT WITH HIM TO PLACE ON DOCUMENTS TABLE FOR ANY WHO WISH COPY. NO EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO CIRCULATE PAPERS IN ANY OTHER MANNER.

6. SEPTEL FOLLOWS ON TRAVEL PLANS. VANCE
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PAGE 03 STATE 090303

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